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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/663,456	09/16/2003	Dean Hedin	5887-308US	2195

570 7590 04/26/2007  
AKIN GUMP STRAUSS HAUER & FELD L.L.P.  
ONE COMMERCE SQUARE  
2005 MARKET STREET, SUITE 2200  
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103

EXAMINER
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HOTALING, JOHN M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3714

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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04/26/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Advisory Action</b> <b>Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/663,456	HEDIN ET AL.
	Examiner John M. Hotaling II	Art Unit 3714

*--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --*

THE REPLY FILED 05 February 2007 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1.  The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

a)  The period for reply expires \_\_\_\_\_ months from the mailing date of the final rejection.  
 b)  The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.  
 Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

NOTICE OF APPEAL

2.  The Notice of Appeal was filed on \_\_\_\_\_. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

AMENDMENTS

3.  The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because  
 (a)  They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);  
 (b)  They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);  
 (c)  They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or  
 (d)  They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: \_\_\_\_\_. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

4.  The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).  
 5.  Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): \_\_\_\_\_.  
 6.  Newly proposed or amended claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).

7.  For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a)  will not be entered, or b)  will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: \_\_\_\_\_.

Claim(s) objected to: \_\_\_\_\_.

Claim(s) rejected: 1-14.

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: \_\_\_\_\_.

AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE

8.  The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).  
 9.  The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).

10.  The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER

11.  The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:  
 See Continuation Sheet.  
 12.  Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_  
 13.  Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

Continuation of 11. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:

The request for reconsideration has been considered, however the art applied in the record is deemed to meet all of the claim requirements. The amended subject matter submitted 2/5/07 is not deemed to change the claim in order to distinguish over the art of record in that the machines of LeMay et al use shared resources between machines in order to have access and control a peripheral device in another machine. Evidence of such can be seen by a detailed reading of LeMay and in particular paragraphs 14,20, 21, 43, 51, 65, 66, 121, and 122. With respect to the improper combination in order the examiner considers that the amendment of 7/19/06 to contain new matter and is not supported by the specification other than a mere mention of multiple games to be played in the applicants background of the invention where it is admitted that such is known to be old and well known. See 2005/0059492 which is the applicants publication application paragraph [0001]. This is not a new matter rejection, however, if the applicant's representative were to file an appeal brief or a RCE this rejection would be made. Nowhere in the application is there stated that "the memory of the first amusement device including a plurality of games selectable for play by a user at the first amusement device;". With respect to applicants assertion that there is no motivation to combine the references und 35 U.S.C. 103 please see above and note in LeMay paragraphs 65, 66, 121, and 122 below that more than adequate motivation exists to combine the references.

[0065] One advantage of using virtual gaming peripherals and shared gaming devices is more robustness and flexibility in maintaining gaming machine functionality. When a gaming device fails using the virtual gaming peripherals, it may be easier to maintain gaming machine functionality because a new virtual gaming peripheral process may be loaded that provides the same functionality without using the failed gaming device.

[0066] Another advantage of using virtual gaming peripherals and shared gaming devices is more flexibility in increasing gaming machine functionality without adding hardware to the gaming machine. With virtual gaming peripherals, combinations of gaming devices used to provide gaming services may be easily modified. These combinations may be chosen in a manner to maximize device utilization on the gaming machine such that more opportunities for additional revenues and better customer service are provided.

[0121] In one embodiment of the present invention, the gaming operating system may allow files stored on the local file storage devices and remote file storage devices to be used as part of a shared file system where the files on the remote file storage devices are remotely mounted to the local file system. The file storage devices may be a hard-drive, CD-ROM, CD-DVD, static RAM, flash memory, EPROM's, compact flash, smart media, disk-on-chip, removable media (e.g. ZIP drives with ZIP disks, floppies or combinations thereof. For both security and regulatory purposes, gaming software executed on the gaming machines 61, 62 and 63 by the master gaming controllers 224 may be regularly verified by comparing software stored in RAM 56 for execution on the gaming machines with certified copies of the

software stored on the gaming machine (e.g. files may be stored on file storage device 226), accessible to the gaming machine via a remote communication connection (e.g., 81, 82 and 90) or combinations thereof.

[0122] The game server 90 may be a repository for game software modules and software for other game services (e.g., virtual gaming peripheral processes) provided on the gaming machines 61, 62 and 63. In one embodiment of the present invention, the gaming machines 61, 62 and 63 may download game software modules from the game server 90 to a local file storage device to play a game of chance or the download may be initiated by the game server. For instance, when a gaming device used by a virtual gaming peripheral to provide a game service fails on the gaming machine, in some cases, the gaming machine may be able to download a new virtual gaming peripheral from the game server 90 that provides the game service without using the failed gaming device. One example of a game server that may be used with the present invention is described in co-pending U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/042,192, filed on Jun. 16, 2000, entitled "Using a Gaming Machine as a Server" which is incorporated herein in its entirety and for all purposes. In another example, the game server might also be a dedicated computer or a service running on a server with other application programs.

As such the Final Rejection made 1/8/2007 stands.

April 20, 2007

John M Hotaling II

Primary Examiner